NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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JOB PRINTING accused with meatness, chapmens and documents.

AMUSEMENTS TO MORROW EVENING

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—Italian Opena

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway - EQUESTRIANISM-GYMSASTICS - THE ELEPHANTS - FOUR LOVERS.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.-THE SCHOOLMASTEE. BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY, -ROLFE, OR THE REI RIGHT HAND-ASPHODEL-PLOUGHMAN TURNED LORD.

BURTON'S NEW THEATRE, Broadway,-WOMAN'S WALLACK'S THEATRR, Broadway, -AMERICANS

LAURA REENE'S THEATRE, No. 624 Broadway. - Out

BARNUMS AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway,-After

WOOD'S MINSTREL BUILDING, 561 and 563 Broadway MECHANIC'S HALL, 427 Broadway.—BRYANTS' MINSTREIS NEGRO NONGS AND BURLESQUES—I AINT GOT TIME TO CARRY

CAMPBELL MINSTRELS, 44 Broadway.-Ethiorian New York, Sunday, December 5, 1858.

MAILS FOR THE PACIFIC.

New York Herald-California Edition. The United States mail steamship Illinois Capt. John McGowan, will leave this port to morrow afternoon, at two

o'clock, for Aspinwall, The mails for California and other parts of the Pacific

will close at one o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The New York WEELLY HERALD-California edition.

containing the latest intelligence from all parts of the world, will be published at ten o'clock in the morning. Single copies, in wrappers, ready for mailing, six cents Agents will please send in their orders as early as pos

The News.

The abduction of Edgar, son of the Israelite Mortara in Bologna, which has excited so much comment all over the world, was the occasion last evening of the largest mass meeting of our Jewish residents ever held in this city, and the only public meeting held by this people in this city outside the synagogues since the Damascus excitement in 1840. Our columns contain a full report of the speeches and resolutions, which denounced the outrage in the strongest terms. Addresses were made by the President, Jonas N. Phillips, Rev. Dr. Raphall, Rev. Dr. Isaacs, Rev. Mr. Jacobs, Chauncey Shaffer, and

The Virginia Democratic State Convention, after a stormy session, yesterday morning nominated John Letcher as candidate for Governor. Later in the day John Randolph Tucker was nominated for Attorney General. At last accounts no candidate for Lieutenant Governor had been nominated.

In the case of the crew of the slave brig Putnam. which was captured by the Dolphin, and taken to Charleston, the Grand Jury, at Columbia, S. C. have thrown out the bills of indictment, and thus the case is virtually dismissed. The accused are however, detained in custody for a few days, until the lawyers conclude their arguments on the subject of the slave trade and other questions that have reference to the affair.

According to the report of the City Inspector, there were 376 deaths in the city during the pas week-a decrease of 7 as compared with the mor tality of the week previous, and 37 less than oc curred during the corresponding week in last year Of the total number 193 were of ten years of age and under, and 57 inmates of the public institu tions. The following table shows the number of deaths for the past two weeks among adults and children, distinguishing the sexes:-

Men. Women. Boys. Week ending Nov. 27... 82 94 110 Week ending Doc. 4.... 67 99 119 97 91 Among the principal causes of death were the

	-Work	ending
Diseases.	Nov. 27.	Dec. 4.
Bronchitis	. 7	8
Consumption	. 68	53
Convulsions (infantile)	. 22	22
Dropay in the head		11
Inflammation of the bowels		2
Inflammation of the lungs	. 26	29
Inflammation of the brain	6	5
Marasmus (infantile)	. 30	14
Scarlet fever	11	14

There were also 4 deaths of apoplexy, 7 of cancarous affections. 11 of congestion of the brain, 8 of congestion of the lungs, 11 of croap, 10 of debility (infantile), 6 of diarrhosa, 5 of erysipelas, 4 of typhus fever, 11 of disease of the heart, 12 o hooping cough, 4 of intemperance, 4 of palsy, 6 premature births, 29 stillborn, and 11 from viole causes, including 2 suicides and 5 burned or scalded, The annexed table shows what portions of the

human system have been most affected:-	
Disease Noe. 27.	Dec. 4
Bones, joints, &c 1	
Brain and herves	65
General we organs	9
Heart and loan' vessels	16
Lungs threat, 32	134
Oid	1
Skin Act, and a uptive tovers 21	20
Stillibers and testinature births	- 25
Biomese, bose is and other digestive organs, 55	45
Carerton seat and general fevers	41
Unknown	-
Urmary organs 5	4
	-

The number of deaths, compared with the corresponding weeks in 1856 and 1857, was as fol-

The nativity table gives 254 natives of the United States, 78 of Ireland, 26 of Germany, 6 of England,

& of Scotland, and the balance of various foreign countries. The annexed table shows the temperature of the atmosphere in this city during the past week, the range of the barometer, the variation of wind currents, and the state of the weather at three periods during each day, viz.: at 9 A. M., and 3 and 9 o'clock

5	100	9 A. M.		3 P. M.		9 P. M.			12 12			
ge of the Work	the of the Month.	Baronder	Thermonister	Wind	Survender	Exemplander	Wind	Baroneter	Thermoneter	Wand	State Joseph might	in, techna
Hat Fun Tues Wed. Thur Fri Sat	NEW BARRA	50.50 50.24 50.06 50.20 50.74 51.70	35 34 35 35 36 40 36 36 40	N W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W	50.50 30.60 50.11 50.20 50.80 30.60 30.42	新黎黎黎黎斯	NAN WEN	30.24 30.20 30.20 30.51 30.70 30.61	をできる数の数	N W N W N W N W	12 30 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	0.2

Wednesday—Clear all day and night.
Thursday—Overcast, with for and rain during the day.
Friday—Morning, hazy; afternoon, clear.
saturday—Morning, overcast.

On Monday last Judge Pruden, of Cincinnati

gave his decision in favor of Nicholas Rudolph. charged with an i fraction of the Sunday law by driving an omnibus or public conveyance on Sunday. The Judge considered such conveyances as coming within the exceptional cases allowed under the head of "works of necessity." This was a test case, and the Sabbatarians are again defeated.

The inclemency of the weather yesterday had a ter dency to check out door business, and to interfere more or less with the general current of trade. The cotton market was quiet and sales limited, while quotations we ithout noticeable change in prices. Flour was in mode rate request, the chief demand being from the domesti-Common grades were heavy, while the better class of brands were sustained. Wheat was unchanged while sales were moderate—the chief transactions were confined to the better qualities of Southern and Western Corn was held above the views of purchasers, which r stricted sales : Western mixed sold at 72c, for inferior to 75c. for prime de. Pork was firmer, and in good demanfuture delivery. On the spot sales of mess we made at \$17 75 for old, and at \$18 25 for new, and o prime at \$14 a \$14 50. Sales were also made of mess, de liverable next summer, seller's option, at \$18. Lard con tipued firm, with moderate sales. The rainy weather with the fact of its being the last day of the week, checked sales of sugar, which were confined to about 300 hhds Cuba muscovado, at steady prices. Molasses was in good request, with sales of some 300 hhds. Cuba muscovado and 200 bbis. New Orleans. Freight engagements were light, while rates were unchanged

The Expenses of the National Government-The Estimates for 1859-'60.

The Secretary of the Treasury has prepared his estimates for the expenses of the gene ral government for the next fiscal year, ending the 30th of June, 1860. It will be presented to Congress to-morrow. He estimates the whole expenditure of the national government at the sum of \$73,217,947 46. This figure is composed of the following items:-

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous, including expenses of collecting the revenue from sales of public lands and expenses of courts. \$11,629,535 11\$
To supply deficiencies in the revenues of the General Post Office. 6,382,900 00 Pensions. \$52,000 00 Indian Department 1,866,419 49

Army, proper, &c., including miscellaneous objects. 15,658,386 28 objects
Military Academy
Fortifications, ordnance, &c.
Navai establishment. To the estimates are added statements show

11 The appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, made by former acts of Congress, of a specific and indefinite character, as follows, viz.—

Miscellaneous, including expenses of collecting revenue from customs., \$5,624,410-14 Compensation to the General Post Office for mail services. 700,000-00 Arming and equipping the militia. 200,000-00 Civilization of Indians. 10,000-00 Interest on the public debt. 1,063,314-36

2 The existing appropriations,

part of which are required for the payment of the liabi-lities of the present fiscal year, but which will not be rawn from the treasury un-l after June 30, 1859, and the balance applied to the service of the fiscal year end-ing June 30, 1860, viz. — ivil list, foreign intercourse

. \$4,270,957, 24 Navy Department

.\$73,217,947 46 It will be seen that of this sum there has been already appropriated, by former acts of Congress, the sum of \$8,497,724 50, and that there is expected to be unexpended from the appropriations of the current year a further sum of \$12,478,907 28. Of this latter sum, however, some portion-it is not said what-will be ap plicable to the present fiscal year. There will, therefore, remain to be appropriated for the service of the next fiscal year, according to the estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury, \$52. 241,315 68; but the actual expenses of the na tional government for the year ending June 30, 1860, must be taken to amount to the first named figure, \$73,217,947 46.

12,478,907 28

We have not yet seen the statement of the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to the sources from which these expenditures are to be defrayed. That will be contained in his annual report, to be presented to-morrow. It is not unlikely, however, that, in view of the diminution in receipts from import duties, a further loan will be recommended. Indeed, we do not see how that is to be avoided. A few years, with that revival of trade which we may naturally expect, will set all that right again, and will enable us to bring up that indebtedness which the commercial reverses of the last few years have led us to menr.

The estimates for the next year are somewhat less than were those for the present year, though not to any very appreciable extent. Thus, The estimates for the year ending June 30, 1860, are \$73,217,947 to Those for the year ending June 30, 1859,

74,064,755 97

A diminution in favor of the present 1857, were \$70,822,724 85, exclusive of several millions that had to be appropriated in deficiency bills. When it is recollected that the expenses of the Utab expedition, and of the Paraguay expedition, and the interest on the new public debt that has been created, have to be deducted from the aggregate for the next year, it will appear that there has been an actual decrease in the expenditures of the national government under the administration of the present Executive.

THE ELECTION ON TUESDAY .- On Tuesday next our citizens will be called upon to elect one bundred and twenty-one candidates, to fill that number of offices in the municipal government, under the provisions of the amended charter of

The publication of the names and occupations or the candidates, and the statement as to whether they were taxpayers or not, in the columns of the HERALD and which appears again to-day has enabled voters to understand who these individunis are, and to discuss their character and qualifications. We have before announced our estimate of both; but we repeat, that a worse selection could not be made. With few, very few exceptions, the qualifications which these candidates present are of the very worst character, and give promise that our municipal government for the next year is to be administered in a more aboninable and corrupt manner than before Members of the Common Council who have been trained in the vilest schools of party politics and whose God is plunder; school officers withont education or moral character; a Comptroller who is either a twaddling fanatic or a party hack-these are not the elements one would expect in a healthy and honest govern ment. Yet, owing to the indifference of the most influential portion of the community, the worst classes of our people-the barroom politicians, bullies and gamblers-have had it all their own way in making the nominations, and we see the blessed result.

For some time past the coming election has created unusual excitement in all quarters, and at one period it looked as if some wisdom and discretion were about to be exercised in the In view, then, of the unsatisfactory explana-

choice of candidates on the part of those who are most interested in procuring an honest and economical administration of affairs; but either through timidity, incapacity, or subserviency to party rule, such, unfortunately, has not been the case, and hence we are destined to further misrule, corruption and fraud.

Let us do what we will on election day, there is no help for it now. The time for amendment has been foolishly allowed to pass away, and our citizens, who evidently think they are not taxed half enough, must make the best of it.

The Anglo-French Policy in America-Why their Representatives Cannot Explain

The attitude which the Western Powers of Europe are assuming in the questions of Mexico and Central America is one that demands an earnest watchfulness on our part. It is evident from the outpourings of the Paris journalswhich, from the severe censorship that is held over them by the government, may be considered as quani official utterances - that the Anglo-French alliance thinks it is now time to take the United States in hand. The march of Russia towards Constantinople has been checked by the slaughter in the Crimea, the exclusivism of China has been cast down by the capture of Canton and the treaties of Tien-tsin, the policy of every court in Europe has been regulated by conferences at Paris, and now the time has come to clip the wings of "manifest destiny" in America.

This is the self-assumed mission of France and England which was so boastfully announced by Lord Clarendon four years since. While the result of the Russian war, the Indian rebellion, and the affair of China, were still doubtful, the Allied Powers seemed to be in wonderful good humor with us, and perfectly willing to let us control affairs on this continent in our own way. The only point that they insisted upon was that they should be allowed to protect Spain from the efforts of the filibusters to liberate Cuba. This was as far as they would go. On several occasions they volunteered their advice to Spain not to go too far in snubbing the United States, and pretty broadly hinted that their agreement was only to pro teet her against aggression. Now, the advice of the two Powers is changed. Spain is prompted into an aggressive movement against Mexico, in which France and England agree to protect her with their fleets from any interference on our part. Such is the statement of a said to be well informed Madrid correspondent of a Spanish journal published in Paris regarding the late conferences of Calderon Collantes, the Spanish Minister of State, with the Ambassadors of France and England. In Central America a similar change has occurred. When the Cass Yrisarri treaty was negotiated, Lord Napier and Count Sartiges announced the perfect acquies cence of their governments to it; it was just the thing, and they should probably make similar ones as soon as the back of the rebellion in India was broken and the Chinese affair was off their hands. Now that these points have been attained, the tune is changed. The Paris Patrie announced that the Cass-Yrisarri treaty abrogates the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, proclaims it "an act which betrayed" Nicaragua, and applauds Gen. Martinez for having seen "the snare," and refusing to sign it.

This game of double-faced diplomacy has not yet been entirely played out, as will be seen by our despatch from Washington, published else where. Our government has become alarmed at the preparations of Spain against Mexico, and of France and England to sustain her in them. Explanations have been requested of Senor Tassara, which bring out only a mass of virtuous generalities, amounting to nothing at all. Napier and Sartiges are anxious to help their confederate out of his dilemma, and the whole trio are a precious stew. Their exertions are evid aimed at producing another result like that from the mission of Sir Wm. Gore Ouseley. No one knows what he came for or what he accomplished. He stayed eleven months at Washington, apparently with nothing to do, and in that time the administration changed its views in regard to the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty-a treaty which was the most foolish mistake of commission that any administration has ever made. It is far worse than any error of

omission could have been. The business of satisfactorily explaining the course of Spain towards Mexico is a peculiarly awkward one. Why should Spain take just the present time to enforce her claims on that republic? A civil war is raging between two parties, neither of whom can be held to represent the republic or has the power to make due reparation. And why should England back her in this exhibition of force against a divided republic at this peculiar juncture, when her own claims against Mexico are a hundred fold greater than those of Spain, and she refrains from press ing them? Why should France, too, wish to egg Spain on in this affair? Her minister in Mexico is the prime mover of the Zuleaga government. and Spain herself at this moment is governed in Paris. Is there any wish in all this to complete the overthrow of the constitutional government in Mexico and to make the clergy supreme there? Is it the mission of Louis Napoleon to destroy constitutions in America as well as in Europe, and to protect the Jesuits in Mexico as in China? The struggle now going on in Mexico is a struggle between the people and priestcraftbetween the political ideas of the nineteenth century and the theocratical despotism of the ninth. Perhaps the sympathies of the Anglo-French alliance are in favor of the policy of Hildebrand.

There is a conflict impending in these questions regarding Mexico and Central America between ourselves and the Anglo-French alliance. Like Turkey and China, circumstances have excluded their elements of wealth and their highways from the republic of trade. The four great Powers combined to open China because no particular advantage was seen to accrue to either. But England and France combined to keep Turkey closed to the march of commerce and civilization, because Russia, from her proximity, might reap the greatest advantage from it. So Mexico and Central America must be closed, because we are likely to gather the most fruits from their opening. The impulse of California upon the industrial energies of this country may be repeated from Mexico, and we bear off the palm as the first commercial nation. This must not be, if France, England and Spain can prevent it; for our moral influence in favor of the rising commercial classes of Europe is already too great. But this will be, it is in the inevitable future of this country to restore peace and order to Mexico and Central America; to bring their hidden wealth to light and pour it into the lap of commerce, and to make their highways and byeways safe to the

merchant of every land.

ons of the European diplomatists and represenfatives in Washington, our government should at once address notes to the Cabinets of Spain, France and England. It should tell them that the representations of Tassara, Napier and Sartiges are too vague and indefinite to inspire confidence, and require at their hands some logical and well founded assurances. Special Ministers should be sent with these communications, and the step should be clothed with all that importance which the immense results at issue require. Those governments should learn at once that the President of the United States is not to be hoodwinked or humbugged by two or three second or third rate representatives, who are not of sufficient importance at home to be told what steps their governments intend to take in an affair so nearly affecting our present interests and our future welfare.

THE PREMIUM SYSTEM IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The recent exhibition of the ward schools at the Peter Cooper Institute, and the award of premiums which has since been made, do not appear to have been productive of those beneficial results which those who approved of and supported the movement anticipated. So far, in fact, have their expectations been disappointed, that instead of creating a spirit of generous emulation and rivalry among the scholars, it has aroused the strongest jealousies among both teachers and pupils. Not more than one-half the ward schools of our city were represented, and the feeling of dissatisfaction about the distribution of premiums was so general among these that the exhibition has utterly failed of its object. Indeed, whatever doubts may have been entertained as to the policy of this premium system in its effects upon the scholars, this exhibition has

done much to remove them. In the city of Boston, where it has been carried to a greater extent than with us, it is rapidly growing into disfavor. The distribution of medals for proficiency in the different branches of education has, for a long period, been a prominent feature in the school system of that city Franklin, in his will, bequeathed a thousand dollars, the interest on which was to be expended in the purchase of silver medals, and six of which were to be given to each school for distribution among the most deserving of its pupils. These are known as the Franklin medals; but there are quite a number of others, some of which are given by men who have the interests of education at heart, and some by men who have only their own publicity in view, and who in this way seek to gratify their desire therefor.

The effects of the system, however meritorious or unworthy the objects of those who patronize and encourage it may be, have been found to be absolutely injurious upon those whom it is intended to benefit—the pupils. The close study necessary for the attainment of that proficiency which secures the desir d prize, and the mental labor and anxiety with which it is attended, have not unfrequently resulted in insanity. Such is the testimony afforded by the records of some of our insane asylums; and it would be well for the friends of popular education to give it their earnest attention. How many minds have been either utterly ruined or dwarfed by this forcing process it is impossible to say; but there are many who have just cause to regret this mistake in their early education. While, however, we condemn the medal system, we think the distribution of book premiums might be substituted with great profit and advantage. As for the late exhibition of the schools in this city, it has, as we have said, proved a total failure, and it is very problematical whether a second affair of the kind will be attempted.

THE STRUGGLE AMONG THE VIRGINIA DEMO-CRACY-THE HUNTER FACTION VICTORIOUS.-A sharp and embittered struggle for the ascendency between the Wise and Hunter factions of the Virginia democracy has terminated with the victory on the side of the Hunter faction, by the capitulation of the Wise faction in behalf of the nomination of Hon. John Letcher as the candidate of the party for Governor. This result is very significant. In fact it may be considered as the death blow to the Presidential aspirations of Gov. Wise. The Governor, after his great victory over the Know Nothings, in 1855, fairly had the democracy of the Old Dominion in the palm of his hand. But in deserting the administration to follow the slippery fortunes of Douglas, Walker, Forney and Company, on the Kansas question, Mr. Wise lost his prestige and his popularity among his own people. Hunter, who stood by the Kansas policy of the administration, supersedes him as the favorite of the Virginia democracy for the Charleston Convention, and Wise must be content with a back seat. As with Wise, so with Douglas. The decision of the democracy of Virginia against the one carries down the other. Thus, discarded in Old Virginia, vain will be the efforts of Douglas, on his present Southern pilgrimage, to render himself acceptable to the Southern democracy upon his weak and shaky Kansas platform of "popular sovereignty." Wise and Douglas in the South must go down together.

THE CHARTER ELECTION IN THE PULPIT.-In about a dozen pulpits of this city to-day one of the issues involved in the charter election of Tuesday next will occupy the attention of the clergy. The Bible in our public schools is the text announced for illustration by several eloquent preachers in the various churches. The se and importance of the Bible is undoubtedly a legitimate theme for pulpit oratory; but we would beg to remind the reverend preachers that there is such a commandment in the Decalogue as "Thou shalt not steal"-a Divine command, which our city officials, of all grades, seem to be entirely ignorant of, or to have wholly forgetten. If the charter election is to be taken into the pulpit at all, we would suggest that, as the question of the Bible in the common schools is to form the subject of o many morning discourses, the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," should be the text of every evening sermon throughout all the churches. It is the last chance before the election which our preachers will have of arousing the slumbering sensibilities of the candidates on this delicate subject.

There are a good many people who think that the Bible in the public schools is little more than an election cry; but no one, office holders and office seekers excepted, doubts the necessity of the due observance of the command, "Thou shalt not steal," on the part of our city

A WHOLE FAMILY BURNED TO DEATH .- At Mat-A WHOLE FAMILY BURNED TO DEATH.—At Mat-tion, liliuos, on the 28th ult., a fire was observed in a tenement on the east end of Broadway, and before the alarm could be given the house was in one sheet of lurid fame. Hugh Harkness, wife and child, were burned to death. Harkness was very intemperate, and, as supposed, in a fit of delirium tremens had overturned the stove, thereby causing himself, wife and child to meet a most horrible death. After the fire was extinguabed, the bodies were discovered in the ruins, burned to a crisp.

THE LATEST NEWS.

Our Special Washington Despatch. FOREIGN POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT—ARRIVAL OF GEN. ROBLES AT THE CITY OF MEXICO AND HIS

Washington, Dec. 4, 1858. I learn, through a person connected with the French egation, that the diplomatic corps here is in quite a stew n regard to the course which our government may adopt n the Mexican and Central American questions. It seem hat explanations have been requested of Senor Tassara as o the intentions of his government in their Mexican operations. He has replied with some general assuran which mean nothing, and are not of a character to satisfy the administration. Napier and Sartiges are cognizant to this, and are very anxious to get Tassara out of his dilemma. There is no other conclusion to be drawn than that all three of these Ministers are ignorant of the course a state of ignorance in order to hoodwink our govern

Information has been received at the Mexican Legation of the arrival of General Robles at the city of Mexico, where he was received in a friendly manner, but not in in Mexico will forsake their own ambitious designs to pro-mote his aspirations. The history of General Robles' ufferings and adventures in reaching the city is romantic He was five days on the uninhabited island of Sacrificios, off Vera Cruz-five days without shelter in a norther, and part of the time without provisions.

The President gave to night his first diplomatic dinner There were thirty-six guests. Besides the foreign representatives and their ladies now present in Washington, there were Gen. Cass and Mr. Forsyth.

A great many members of Congress came in to-day.

There are more than a quorum already here. In consequence of the exhaustion of the appropriatio nade by Congress, the directions of the Secretary of the Navy to Lieut, Michler, United States Army, to submit to him the map, plan and profiles of the Atrato Ship Canal Survey, cannot be complied with for the present. The President's Message will occupy ten (not eighteen) columns of the Washington Union.

The Virginia Democratic State Convention. NOMINATION OF THE HON. JOHN LETCHER FOR GOVERNOR, AND JOHN R. TUCKER FOR ATTORNEY

NIGHT SESSION. PETERSBURG, Dec. 3, 1858. Mr. Pryor concluded amid tremendous applause. He was followed by Mr. Wm. M. Tredway, for Letcher and Mr. O. Jennings Wise, also for Letcher. The latter was speaking at ten o'clock. The balloting will commence

as soon as Mr. Wise concludes. The Convention got through with the first ballot at four o'clock in the morning. The interest manifested was in-tense, the crowd remaining till the close. The candidates presented were Messrs. Letcher, Hopkins, Edmundson Smith of Greenbrier, Brockenbrough and John Randolph Tucker. Mr. Letcher was nominated by about 12,500 votes over all others. The Convention adjourned till eleven o'clock this morning. Mr. Letcher's friends are in

ecstacies. Mr. Letcher's vote is 85,532, and his majority over al 17,520. His nomination was declared unanimou Mr. Gordon, of Albemarle, Mr. Wise and other bitter

opponents, formally pledged themselves to do everything their power to secure his election. John Randolph Tucker was then nominated for Attorney eneral by acclamation.

The merits of six or more candidates for Lieutenan Governor are now being discussed.

The Convention will probably adjourn to night

The South Carolina Legislature and the Slave Trade.

Mr. W. D. Porter, of Charleston, was to-day elected President of the Senate, in place of Mr. Chesnut, resigned. Resolutions were yesterday introduced into the House nstructing the representatives of South Carolina in Con gress to use all their efforts to secure the repeal of all neasures of the general government restrictive of the slave trade, the same being in derogation of the rights of the South. They were ordered for consideration to day.

Senator Douglas at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 4, 1858. Senator Douglas and lady arrived here yesterday. There as no particular enthusiasism manifested on the part of our citizens towards the Senator from Illinois, but hospitality was extended by all towards himself and lady. He visited the St. Charles last night by invitation, and to-day will give a reception to his political and other friends. A dinner is to be given him, tendered by the Pierre Soule and American party. The administration party keep aloof from any participation in the honor is

News from Mexico. WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1853

New Orleans papers of Monday last are received. They contain an extract from the Havana Diario de la Marino of the 25th of November, saying that General Robles had outed General Llave at Jalapa, taking the latter prisoner. Letters from Vera Cruz to the 13th are said to confirm this statement, which the Diario remarks was conveyed o Havana by the Spanish brig Vizcaino, from Sisal, in private letters written by persons of credibility. The Picayone, having dates to the 22d oil, without a

word referring to General Llave's defeat, doubts the whole story.

Disasters at Sea.

HALIFAX, Doc. 4, 1858. The schooner John Benson, from Norfolk for Halifax, truck on Bantam Rock on the 8d inst. and bilged. Sh-

was afterwards got into Port Herbert full of water. The brigantine Maggie, from Boston for Charlottetown, has been totally lost in Fisherman's Harbor. The matrials and a part of her cargo were saved.

The bark Elizabeth Hall, of Portland, Me., was aban loned at sea, and the captain and crew were taken off by the brig Bull, which has arrived at Port Medway. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4, 1858.

The steamer North Carolina, for Norfolk, collided last night with an unknown vessel off Annapolis. The smoke stack and upper works of the steamer were shattered.

The Marion at Charleston. CHARLESTON, Dec. 4, 1858.

The United States mail steamship Marion, from New York, arrived here this (Saturday) morning at six o'clock

Markets.

PHILADRIPHIA, Dec. 4, 1858.
PHILADRIPHIA, Dec. 4, 1858.
Stocks steady. Pennsylvania State fives, 95 ½; Readi
Railroad, 25 ½; Morris Canal, 48 ½; Long Island Railroad,
11 ½; Pennsylvania Railroad, 43.

The sales of cotton to-day were 3,000 bales, at un changed prices; sales of the week foot up 15,500 bales, at un the receipts 24,000, against 21,500 bales in the same week last year. Increased receipts at this port to date, 104, 500 bales; stock 167,000 bales. Freights—Cotton to Liverpool, 9-16d; to Hayre, 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)ee Sterling exchange 107\(\frac{1}{2}\)ee A

CHARLESTON, Dec. 3, 1858.
The sales of cotton to-day were 1,000 balos. Mark

Flour dull. Wheat buoyant; red, \$1.20; white, \$1.35 a. \$1.50. Corn dull at \$2c. a 03c. Provisions firm; mess pork, \$17.50; prime, \$14.50. Lard firm at 10 %c. a 11c. Whiskey dull.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLAVE TRADE RESOLUTIONS -The following are the slave trade resolutions now before the Legislature of South Carolina -

Resolved, That the constitution of the United States contains to grant of power to regulate, prevent or restrict commerce meng foreign nations, and therefore all acts of Congress purceiting to problish or interfere with the slave trade between oreign countries are onconstitutional, and have no rightful ore or effect.

Resolved, That the act of Congress declaring the slave trade to privacy—if it be understood as affirming that it is piracy in granting of things and in the to be piracy—if it be understood as affering; that it is piracy in the nature of things and in the sense of the constitution—afferms what is not true and, line much as it purports and intends to convert into piracy, what is not so in the nature of things and in the sense of the constitution, the said act is unconstitutional, mail and void.

Senator Mazvek, who introduced these resolutions, made a brief speech in their favor. He argued against the right of the federal government to interfere with the slave

rade when carried on by foreign nations, but he did not touch the question of re-opening our own ports to the foreign slave trade. In regard to the act of Congress which declares the slave trade pirace, Mr. M. contended that when the federal constitution was adopted the alayer trade was as segitimate as the trade in wool, collee or to bacco, and that if the power delegated to Congress to regulate commerce is to be interpreted into the right to make it an act of piracy to carry on that particular trade between any countries whatever, then must Congress surely have the same right, at its option, to make the trade in coffee, wool or tobacco an act of piracy. If Congress, he said, really possessed the power to make the slave trade between Africa and Cuba piracy, it would have the same power to declare the same trade piracy between Louisiana and Virginia when carried on by the sea.

The Senate did not seem to be prepared at that time to act upon the resolutions, and they were referred to the Committee on Federal Relations. rade when carried on by foreign nations, but he did not

The Slave Brig Echo Case_The Bills Thrown Out by the Grand Jury.

COLUMBIA, NOV. 30, 1858. The Federal Court met at a quarter past eleven o'clock

this morning, when the following proceedings took

The Court-Mr. District Attorney, has any application been made to you by the Grand Jury since the adjourn ment of the court yesterday?

Mr. Connor-May it please the Court, the Grand Jury applied to me last night to have a copy of the oath of office taken by them sent to their room. I told them that it

would be proper for them to make their application to your Honor, in court.

The Court.—Mr. Marshal, you will please direct the foreman of the Grand Jury to come into court and receive the oath, if they desire it.

The foreman of the jury shortly afterwards made his appearance in court.

The foreman of the jury shortly afterwards made his appearance in court.

The Court—The Court is informed, Mr. Foreman, that you desire to receive the oath taken by the Grand Jury, for your information. It was not sent to you by the District Attorney, when the application was made to him, because after the Grand Jury has received its case and retred no document whatever is allowed to be sent before them without the order of the Court. The Court now gives you this copy of the Grand Juror's cath, which you will take with you to your room.

At twenty-five minutes before twelve o'clock the Grand Jury came into Court. The roll was called by the clerk, and all the jurors answered to their nam's.

The Court—Mr. Foreman, any findings the Grand Jury may have to present to the court, you will please hand to the clerk.

the clerk.

The three indictments were then handed to the Clerk. The three indictments were then handed to the Cierk, who read each of them, endorsed "No bill."

The Court—Mr. District Attorney, have you anything urther to present to the Grand Jury?

Mr. Connor—Not at present, your Honor. But I ask that they may be discharged until Thursday morning, when I may have further business for them.

The Jury were accordingly discharged until Thursday morning. There was evident excitement in court whom the finding of the Jury was announced.

TELEGRAPHIC

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 4, 1858. To-day the prisoners in the slaver Echo case, sixteen in umber, were brought before the Federal Court on a writ of habeas corpus.

charged from custody, when a counter motion was made by the United States District Attorney, that they be remanded to jail to await the future action of the Grand

Arguments against the constitutionality of the law of 1820 were made by Messrs. Spratt and Gregg, the invalidity of the law being the ground on which the discharge of the prisoners was demanded. District Attorney Conner replied in an argument of conceded force, soundness and

The further hearing of the case was then post por

Academy of Music.

The "Huguenots" was produced last night with all the dvantages of a powerful cast, fine scenery, spiendid costumes and choral and instrumental arrangements of the first magnitude. This opera has been so rarely performed in this country that a few words in regard to it history and general characteristics may not be unaccept

The "Huguenots," like "Robert le Diable," developed a style of composition which, until Meyerbeer's time, was but imperfectly appreciated, for the simple reason that no previous composer had achieved success in it. Both works may be said to have owed their birth to the domes tic bereavements which cast a gloom over the commence ment of Meyerbeer's married life, and which condemned ment of Meyerbeer's married life, and which condemned him to several years of melancholy and retirement. From the religious impulses which, springing from the death of his children, prompted him to the composition of the "Stabat Mater," the "Misercre," and the "Te Deum," he passed naturally to the conception and elaboration of the two great works which have existed his place in the foremost rank of modern composers. In "Robert" he struck into an entirely new vein, and unconsciously satisfied a taste which had been created in the public by the crude experiments of others in the same direction for the union of the highest order of dramatic action with the finest efforts of melody and harmony. The success of the work confirmed him in the resolution to cultivate the grand and terrible, rather than the lighter species of compositions, in which there were numerous competitors, all more or less successful. It was only after an interval of four years, however, that "Robert" was followed by the "Huguenots," Although by the public generally the latter was not considered equal to its predecessor, cultivated judges did not fail to recognise in it as happy an effort of genius. Conceived on the same plan, it exhibits, perhaps in a more eminent degree, all the qualities and defects of its author. Its principal merit consists in the foreable expression of its passions and characters; but in addition to this, the composer employs all the resources of art, no matter how meretricious; and if this luxury of means often produces the happiest effects, it has sometimes the inconvenience of fatiguing the attention of the addience, and of not leaving them the enjoy ment of a quiet admiration. In spite of this fault, if a superabundance of musical wealth can be so termed, the "Huguenots" is a work of unquestionable genius. Mounted and cast as it was last night, it would be impossible to fire, to a mind prepared for it by any degree of musical nitivation, a richer, a more satisfactory, or a more intellectual treat.

The great feature of to several years of melancholy and retire

of treat.

I great feature of the evening was the début of Mile Poinsot, of the Grand Opera in Paris, in the röle tina. We have rarely winessed a more complete From the beginning to the end of the opera sh and secured the sympathy and admiration of her

tina. We have rarely witnessed a more complete success. From the beginning to the end of the opera she enlisted and secured the sympathy and admiration of her andience. Possessed of a fine figure, expressive features and a pure, full toned voice, she could not fail to command a certain amount of favor. When we state that to these qualifications she adds dramatic powers of a very high order, it will be readily understood why she is so much esteemed in her own country. In the dust with Mircel, in the second act, the accuracy of her intonation and the precision and elegance of her execution gave infinite satisfaction; but the scene between her and Raoul, at the close of the third act, developed to their full extent her qualities as an actress. From that time until the curtain fed every passage drew down thunders of applause; and at the close of the opera, as, indeed, after each act, she was called again and again before the curtain and overwheimed by demonstrations of favor.

Signor Tamaro, who was evidently still suffering from the effects of illness, could not, of ceurse, render to the part of Raoul the degree of force which it requires to support efficiently a Valentina of such marked powers as Mile. Poinsot. Still, in the grand duct in the third act he surprised his auditors by his efforts to overcome his physical difficulties, and was rewarded by the applause of the audience. Madame Laborde was not heard to as much advantage in the Queen as might have been expected from her showy style of singing. In the declamatory passages she was decaledly leable, and her fiersture could not conceal her want of physique. Amongs the male singers there was a good deal of carelessness observable, but more particularly in the quart-tile between Raoul, Marcel, vevers and Saint Briz. It is necessary to point out these tamps, for it is a pity that negligence should not conceal her want of physique. Amongs the male singers there was a good deal of carelessness observable, but more particularly in the quart-tile between Raoul.

Mar

The Mearagua Route.

I have noticed an article in this morning's N. Y. Times n reference to my withdrawal from the command of the steamship Hermann at Panama. There are so many discrepancies and inaccuracies in the said article, that I only crepancies and inaccuracies in the said spicle, that I only wait a proper time to make public my statement of faces; in the meantime I beg to assure the public that the powerful influences brought to bear upon me were not directed by any outward interference designed to affect the interests of any company whatever, but were of such a mature that I would have been something worse than a man had they not directed my movements homeward. These will all be made public when I deem it necessary.

New York, Dec. 4, 1853. EDWARD CAVENDY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

We understand that in a few days, if the weather will permit, water is to be let into the skating pond in Central ark. We also understand that the water will be ten feet Against this we protest. Such a depth will be langerous, and may lead to a loss of life. Should the angerous, and the city will be personal to prevent sense in furnishing apparatus and attendants to prevent secudents, as is necessary on the Sorpentine river in London. The true way should be to let in only water enough the sense of the same of the most we shall then see one of the most way should be a New York winter. scene. We hope the Central Park Commission, in view of this result, will take care to prevent all possible accidents, by admitting no more water into the pond than is abso-lately necessary to secure a smooth surface, and avoid the possibility of danger to those who resurt to it for the most healthful and joyous of amusements.

day it was stated that Mr. Richardson, Deputy Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies, extinguished the fire in the Comptroller's office. We have since learned that Mr. Rich-

ardson had nothing to do with the auppression of the fire, but that Mr. Henry A. Secor, of the Street Commissioner's office, was the party who out through the walls of the building concealing the flames, and by his own exertions extinguished them before the firemen or any other officers arrived. The prompt action of Mr. Secor no doubt saved the city from a great loss of property.